

Flashback

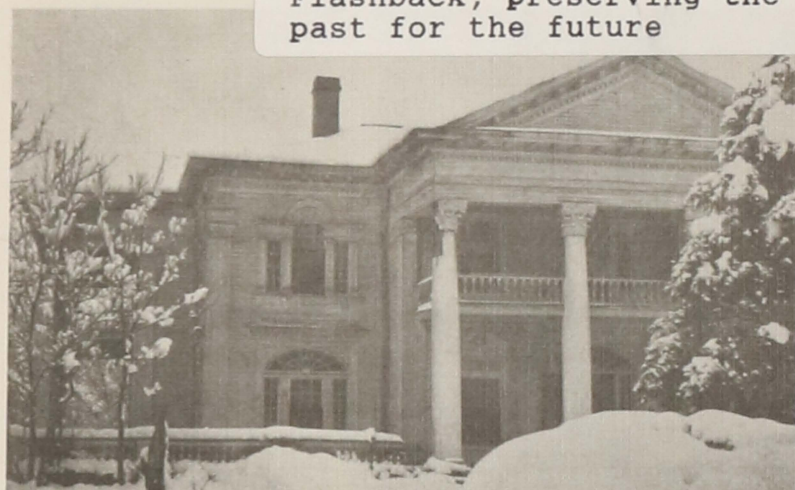
Journal of the Washington County Historical Society

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Flashback, preserving the
past for the future



**Arkansas Building from the 1904
St. Louis Exposition on Fayetteville's
Mt. Nord under an April 15, 1933,
twenty-five inch snow.**

Preserving The Past For The Future

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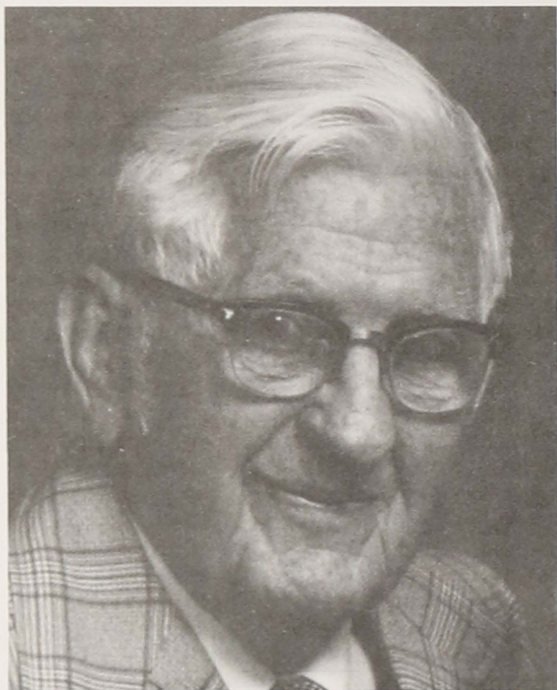
by
Jean and Keith Newhouse

In Memory of
Lloyd McConnell

Lloyd McConnell

1900-1993

When Lloyd McConnell died October 13, 1993, the Washington County Historical Society lost a longtime friend and supporter. His knowledge of Washington County history was as unlimited as his willingness to share that lore. It made him many friends over the years.



Lloyd McConnell

He was well known around the county courthouse, as a clerical tax accountant, a clerk for County Judge Witt Carter and deputy sheriff and circuit clerk,

an elective position he held for a decade. After his retirement, McConnell became delinquent tax collector for Washington County. He was also a member of the staff of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and held a position on the local draft board during WWII.

He was equally well known around the Society's offices, first when it was on Center Street, later at the converted garage at Headquarters House, the Old Jail and most recently in Headquarters House itself. Lloyd McConnell held many positions with the Society, including that of secretary, a position we recognized later in his life when he was awarded the title of secretary emeritus.

It is probable however, that he was best known for his writing. For many years he was a columnist with the *Washington County Observer* and his weekly column, "The Way It Was", was a popular feature that related incidents of the past and gave his readers an inkling of what it was like to be a native of Washington County, a distinction he held for 93 years.

His contributions to the Society were countless and he did much to expand our knowledge of county history. More importantly, his research made the pioneers of the county come alive for historians and their descendants.

He will be missed.

*In the book of life by an Angels Pen
May your name, dear friend be written
And the loved of earth may you meet again.
On the peaceful shores of Heaven*

The Way It Was

Baseball—Years Ago

by Lloyd McConnell

Most of the small towns in Washington County used to have baseball teams. I played with the town team in Prairie Grove between 1916 and 1922. We played teams from the surrounding area, including Lincoln, Farmington, Cemetery Hill, Westville and Stilwell, Oklahoma. Now and then we would play with Bentonville, Gentry, Siloam Springs and other communities.



We kept our Prairie Grove team intact for several years. It included catcher, Milton Barnett; first base, Dolph Helms; second base, Bill McConnell; shortstop, Ray Hannah; third base, Bob Weltic. An extra pitcher sometimes played the outfield, Euel West always played center field, as he was a fast runner and good batter. I played right field only. I could catch a fly

ball and bunt a runner in from third. That was how I made it.

Jake Johnson from Dutch Mills, and his two brothers, Harrison and Paul, played with us often. Paul was a pitcher and Jake a catcher. For our pitching staff in playing the larger towns we got someone from the ex-major leagues or from the University Veterans Teams. Locally Oscar McCuistion and Cecil Bowling were good pitchers. Ed Gardener, manager of the telephone company was back from the St. Louis Browns; Sid Benton of Fayetteville was an ex-Cardinal pitcher; Frank Mulburn went to the Washington Senators; Sextus Mitchell from the University gave us a pretty good pitching staff. Sometimes we paid them.

Once we played a two-game series at Stilwell, Oklahoma, during a picnic and they hit us with a Boston Red Sox pitcher home on leave. We didn't make a run in two days. We slept in a rooming house over the local grocery store where the bedbugs ate us up. We complained to the lady owner the next morning about the bugs and she told us there was not a single bedbug in the place. Our local wit, Bob Waitie, told her, "Yes, Madam, every one of them is married and has huge families."

The Stilwell team, mostly Indians, included several of the Shell boys. They were good players. I believe one of them was county clerk. Usually in the early spring the Fort Smith Twins matched a practice game with an All-star team in Washington County. Rogers, Siloam Springs and Bentonville furnished players. I was on one team and played right field.

In the game, Pete Lewis, an ex-Chicago Cub was batting. He could hit a home run out of the park. At Springdale, the old high school stood near Highway 71, with a street north of it and then a large orchard across the street. Pete hit a long ball, I knew it was

over the fence, so I climbed the fence, went down in the orchard and caught the fly ball. Pete rounded third and an umpire said, "You're out."

"Out, hell," said Lewis. "I hit a home run."

The man caught it, the umpire told him. Pete came on around the bases then trotted to the outfield where I was coming in. He cussed me out for playing over in the orchard.

We were a run behind and had men on second and third. The manager yelled at me, "McConnell, butt him in." I picked up a bat. I was a good bunter--and took two strikes, then the runner started for home plate. I missed the third strike, and he was out. The catcher threw to third and made another out. The game was over. I thought they were going to run me out of town.

I quit baseball and went to work for the court house.



While the writer was serving as a justice of the peace for Washington County, in the late 1960s, a young couple came into my office with a marriage license. The boy was wearing a thin shirt such as is used in field work and the girl, about 17, a dress such as she might wear at the tomato canning factory. Evidently they were people without much money.

I performed the marriage ceremony and the lad asked how much he owed me. I told him the usual price was \$3. He pulled out two one-dollar bills and said that was all the money he had.

I gave it back to him, and told him to go by the Midway Cafe, south of Springdale, where they lived and buy the girl a good dinner. I hoped they would make it. Evidently they had been working in the fields and just decided to get married without waiting any longer.

Martha Belle Johnson Brogdon

1925-1993

In October, 1993, the Washington County Historical Society held its Annual Meeting at the Old Post Office in Fayetteville. At that meeting new officers for 1993 were installed and two fine people were honored as Distinguished Citizens of Washington County for 1993. They were the world-famous jurist and scholar Robert A. Lefflar and Springdale's well-known Martha Brogdon. We regret to report her death in November, 1993.

The following was read by Ann Sugg at our Annual Meeting before her presentation of the Distinguished Citizen Award to Martha Brogdon. We couldn't create a finer tribute to this remarkable woman.

Martha Belle Brogdon has roots that run deep in Arkansas History, indeed in the history of our nation. An early ancestor, Edmund Johnson, came to the colony of Virginia from Scotland in 1639. A third great grandfather and a Revolutionary War veteran settled in Arkansas Territory in 1817. Martha Belle herself was born into a second generation Northwest Arkansas farm family, the daughter of Luther Edward Johnson and Freda Elva Bird Johnson. In her early years, Martha walked from the farm to school in Johnson except when she caught a ride with neighbor County Judge I. R. Rothrock.

After moving back and forth between the farm and Springdale, the family settled into the old 2-story Chapman home at 609 Maple Street, the present site

of Springdale Memorial Hospital. The large trees in front of the hospital were planted by her father and stand as testimony to his conscientious husbandry of the land. Luther and Freda Johnson were pioneers in the vibrant poultry and canning industries which have meant so much to the economy of Northwest Arkansas. They began in 1923 raising hens and broilers in a chicken house made from a piano box. They started a small cannery which they supplied with grapes, strawberries and tomatoes from their own fields. From this inauspicious beginning Luther, in partnership with his cousin, Joe Steele, expanded his farm canning into a formidable business empire which encompassed such diverse interests as banking, oil distributorships and a Nash automobile dealership.



Martha Brogdon

It was appropriate that Martha, while a pretty coed at the University of Arkansas and president of her sorority, Delta Gamma, would choose a husband from another Northwest Arkansas farming family. The only child of orchardist Charles Clifton Brogdon and Willie Caldwell Brogdon, Bennett Brogdon was a handsome World War Two Army Air Corps veteran attending the University on the GI Bill when they met. Their only child, Sandra Lee, was born while Bennett was still a student.

So we see that Martha was a child of history: the descendent of Virginia colonists, the third great granddaughter of Arkansas Territory frontiersmen, the daughter of Northwest Arkansas poultry pioneers, wife of a war hero, contributor to the post war "baby boom." Not content to be only a child of history, Martha has made history on her own.

Beginning with PTA and Girl Scouts, she moved on to the Springdale Library Board and was president during the initial construction of the library building in 1965. She even made an extended illness productive by taking up the study of genealogy. In 1987 she really made history when she became the first woman to be elected to the Springdale City Council, on which she is currently serving her fourth term. In addition she is a member of the Board of Directors of the Springdale Chamber of Commerce, the Advertising and Promotion Commission and the Springdale Tourism Facilities Board. Other activities include Springdale memorial Hospital Auxiliary, AARP, Arts Center of the Ozarks, Beta Sigma Phi and PEO, each of which she has served as various officers.

Besides these multitudinous civic contributions she has found time to be a successful business woman managing both residential and commercial real estate. She serves as management partner in Bo-Mar Compa-

ny and Brogdon Investment Company.

Born a child of history, reared to be a maker of history, Martha has found her own way to be a preserver of history. A life-long member of the church, she wrote the History of Salem Lutheran Church, Springdale, which will be read and studied by generations to come. She has also served on the Board of Directors of the Washington County Historical Society. These things are significant contributions to this community, but it was the people of Shiloh Museum who nominated Martha Brogdon to be honored today. Having served on the Board of Directors for ten years, including three as president, she has been a vital part of the community effort which culminated in the impressive facility at 118 W. Johnson Street, Springdale. Though such a formidable undertaking cannot be credited solely to one individual, Shiloh Museum will surely stand as a living testimonial to the important contributions of Martha Brogdon. Her stature in this field was recognized statewide when she received the 1983 Trustee Award of Merit from the Arkansas Museum Association.

Today we have come together, husband Bennett, daughter Sandra, son-in-law, Daniel Smith, other family members and a host of friends and colleagues to honor this remarkable woman, child of history, maker of history, preserver of history, Martha Belle Johnson Brogdon.



Abandoned Lands in Fayetteville After the Civil War

Compiled by Vicki Rounsvell

Taken from the microfilmed records of the United States Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen & Abandoned Lands, Record of Assistant Commissioner for the State of Arkansas. This list has been alphabetized by the editor to assist our readers in making use of it.

Samuel R. Bell

One small dwelling house containing three rooms

Colin Davis

One large frame dwelling house containing
eight rooms

One large frame dwelling house containing four rooms

Joseph L. Dickenson

One large frame dwelling house containing ten rooms

W. K. Frazier

One frame dwelling house containing three rooms

Henry Holcomb

One frame dwelling house containing five rooms

Two outhouses* and one stable

One frame tannery and machinery and one
log house used by Quartermaster Department

* *One must assume that the "outhouse" of the Civil War era was not what we today call a privy. But rather what we now refer to as an out building--editor.*

Columbus Jackson

One small frame dwelling house containing
three rooms

Wm. Kidd

One frame dwelling house containing
four rooms

One outhouse and stable

Henry Kyser

Three frame dwelling houses each containing
two rooms

Joseph Lewis

One frame dwelling house containing four rooms

George North

One frame dwelling house containing three rooms

James R. Pettigrew

One frame dwelling house containing five rooms

William Quishenberry

One small frame dwelling house containing four rooms

W. H. Ragan

One small frame dwelling house containing two rooms

A. V. Reiff

One frame dwelling house containing four rooms

One frame dwelling house containing two rooms

Henry Reiff

One large brick house containing six rooms

W. N. Ryan

One large frame dwelling house containing five rooms

Presley R. Smith

One large dwelling house containing nine rooms

One outhouse

P. Stevenson

One frame dwelling house containing three rooms

Warren Stewart

One frame dwelling house containing four rooms

Isaac Taylor

One large frame dwelling house containing four rooms

John Teamster

One frame dwelling house containing four rooms

David Walker

One frame dwelling house containing four rooms

J. W. Washburne

One large frame dwelling house containing six rooms

One large brick house containing six (6) rooms
" Frame dwelling House " " four (4) "
" " Out House and stable
" Frame dwelling House containing four (4) rooms
" " " " " two (2) "
" " " " " five (5) "
2 Out Houses and stable
1 Frame Sawmill and Machinery & one log House used by S. M. Dept
1 Large dwelling House containing nine (9) rooms

The Trial of W.T. Larremore

by David B. Ellis

"Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them; for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee." (Timothy 4:16)

When B. H. Pierson¹ preached from this text almost a century-and-a-half ago, Rev. Larremore must have felt some trepidation at what was to follow. To be sure, the trial was long delayed², and was only the most recent development in a long series of charges of impropriety and rumors thereof, that had dogged him from the beginning of his dealings with the Cumberland Presbyterians³.

The Situation

William Terrell Larremore⁴ was one of seven ministers present⁵ at this meeting of Washington Presbytery, of which he was a charter member. There were nine elders in attendance, who were authorized to conduct business in the names of their respective congregations. Besides these voting members of the assembly, also present were five licentiates, two candidates⁶, and a visiting Methodist Episcopal layman who was to be a witness.

The situation was a delicate one. Larremore, a man in his late fifties⁷, had been ordained twenty years ago almost to the day. On March 7, 1827, three ordained ministers⁸ had entered the home of Washington Cooper, Lawrence County, Arkansas Territory. He was among the six⁹ who had emerged at the end of the ceremony held on the second day of Presbytery. He had been living at that time in Natural Dam, Crawford County, for some years. There he had accomplished much. He had somehow knocked part of the solid rock from that formation that gave the

settlement its name to make a natural raceway for his mill. He also operated a trading post and conducted lengthy camp meetings. All this before whites were officially allowed in that part of Arkansas.

There must have been rumors at that time. It was whispered he had a wife in Jackson County, Illinois, while he was living with a widow in Crawford County. The story goes that his wife, daughter, and son-in-law arrived in Arkansas in 1828; his wife died of a broken heart about 1830. She was the first burial in Hall Cemetery of Natural Dam¹⁰.

But the above was only hearsay. W. T. Larremore had certainly acquired a competency of the world's assets¹¹ and had been active in both ecclesiastical and civic affairs. Had he not joined with Jesse Blair in organizing the Cane Hill Congregation in 1828? Had he not joined with Andrew (Uncle Buck) Buchanan in starting Mulberry Congregation in 1832? Was he not a charter member of the Fayetteville Congregation dating from late in 1830? It, too, had been organized by Uncle Buck when Larremore and his family signed a charter in a blacksmith shop, W. T. Larremore had even been elected to the State Legislature once in 1840.

The Charges

Now Washington Presbytery had the temerity to charge Larremore with drunkenness at a revival¹²:

Whereas Common fame has widely circulated against Rev. Wm. T. Larrimore, the grave charge, that at the Campground while the Camp Meeting was in progress in the immediate vicinity of Huntsville in the Month of September last, he was intoxicated with Ardent Spirits and whereas it is made the duty of the Presbytery by the book of Discipline in such case, for the credit of one of

her Ministers (if the charge be false) and for the credit of the church, and the Religion of the Lord Jesus Christ, whether the charge be true, or false, promptly censure said brother, and investigate said charge.

Resolved, therefore, that Wm. T. Larrimore be notified according to the discipline of this church to appear before the Presbytery at the Town of Huntsville, Madison County, Arkansas on the 12th day of November next 1846 to answer to said charge.

A Precedent

This was not the first time drinking had put him in hot water. Larremore and his business partner, Martin Thornsberry, had both been on the Board of Managers of the Fayetteville Temperance Society when it was organized in January 1842¹³. He even had the grace to address one of their meetings when the expected speaker, lawyer and Methodist minister, A. W. Arrington, did not attend¹⁴. Barely over a year later, Larremore was investigated for violation of the Society's pledge of sobriety. His innocent plea and the refusal of witnesses to testify resulted in a dismissal. The secretary who chronicled this fact was none other than Rev. B. H. Pierson, clerk (and preacher of the opening sermon) of the current Presbytery meeting¹⁵.

The following month, a similar charge came before the Society's Board of Managers of which Larremore was no longer a part. They had terminated his membership with all due pomp¹⁶:

The trial of W. T. Larremore came on to be heard, who publicly arose and confessed that he had drank wine, which was proven by witnesses to be intoxicating liquor, after which the Board took the case under consideration, and after due deliberation thereon, had, they have agreed, and expressly understood, that said Larremore

ought to be reported to the society at its next regular meeting as a person unworthy of membership in said Society.

The Trial

Larremore had to have felt a sense of *deja vu*, with Pierson again being one of his judges. Larremore and Pierson had much in common, both having been millers and Cumberland Presbyterian preachers. Larremore had been present at Pierson's ordinating in October 1832, five years after Larremore's. But Pierson's heart was cold¹⁷; further the precedent had occurred less than four years ago.

Arguably, the deck was stacked against Larremore. Not only did Pierson have prior knowledge of the Temperance Society proceedings, but certain witnesses would also vote on Larremore's guilt. Of course, such procedure would not be allowed in a regular court of law, but the Presbytery did not face such constraints.

The fact that Larremore had evidently stalled the judicial process by his inattendance could not have helped matters. But on April 6, 1847, he was present and on time. As was customary, ministers who had been absent at previous meetings gave their excuses, and they were sustained. Larremore was among those offering excuses, as he had often done in the past for his Presbytery attendance had been spotty over the years. Quickly the trial was set for the next day, Wednesday, April 7, at 2:30 PM¹⁸.

After a time of prayer, swearing in of witnesses, and going over the rules, the trial commenced. Several witnesses were called and testified before adjourning until 8:00 the following morning. What was said one can only guess. Those witnesses to be summoned by the clerk were named in an earlier meeting¹⁹: Rev.

John F. King, Rachel King, George W. Saunders, Mary Saunders, Evan S. Polk, D. L. Saunders, Wm. Boatwright, Jr., P. W. Phillips, John Berry, H. C. Berry, Jane Polk, and Wm. C. Roark. Among these, John King and George Saunders were voting members of the Presbytery.

On Thursday, additional witnesses were heard. Then the meeting adjourned to enable the Missionary Board to meet at its appointed time. After said meeting, testimony was resumed and concluded.

Guilty!

The last event recorded was the reading of the verdict²⁰:

After due deliberation on the Case, the Presbytery decided that bro. Wm. T. Larrimore was guilty as charged, of being intoxicated with Ardent Spirits at the Camp Ground in the vicinity of this place in the Month of September last.

Resolved, therefore, that the said Wm. T. Larrimore be, and he is hereby suspended from the exercise of the Ministerial Office, and he is allowed till the next stated Session of this Presbytery to profess to the Presbytery his repentance.

The voting record is given in the minutes, and the question of guilt resolved 11-3. The final disposition of the case carried 11-2 (one abstention). There were two elders who reversed their votes on the questions. It is understandable that one could suppose guilt but disagree with the consequences (as did Samuel A. Rogers of Kings River--now Carrollton). Robert McCamy, the elder from White River (now Elkins), however, voted that Larremore was not guilty, but should be suspended anyway²¹!

Epilogue

At the October 1847 meeting of Presbytery, a committee of three (I. T. Nolen, J. F. King, and M. Holford) was appointed "to confer with said Larrimore; and bring him to repentance, if possible, and report to the next stated session of this Presbytery²²."

In April 1848 the committee for Larremore's repentance reported that he "still failed to do so, but has embraced the heresy of Alexander Campbell--has connected himself with the Campbellite communion and has recd. ordination as a teacher of their doctrines. Resolved Therefore That he be no longer regarded as a Minister of Jesus Christ or as having any connection with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church²³." The Campbellites are now known as Disciples of Christ, and their theology closely aligned with that of Presbyterians. How times change!

Apparently in violation of his suspension, Larremore performed a marriage on January 8, 1848²⁴. He soon moved to Lockhart, Texas, where he is listed with his family in the 1850 census. His power of attorney for his lawyers, Jonas Tebbetts and Hugh Thomas, to sell his Washington County land is on file in the Washington County courthouse²⁵.

William T. Larremore evidently died on October 4, 1853²⁶. Investigation of his early life and his few years in Texas is still continuing. The trail is cold and leads have been few. I have contacted two descendants, but they have no further details. His life in Arkansas was colorful and sometimes puzzling, but an interesting subject of study.

Notes:

1. Benjamin H. Pierson, born in 1800 or 1803, was ordained at Cane Hill, Arkansas in 1832. He was on the Board of Trustees of Cane Hill School (antecedent of Cane Hill College), beginning in 1834. He preached in Cane Hill, to the Salem Congregation before

the Civil War, and afterwards until 1868, when he moved to another part of Arkansas. Pierson owned a farm and mill in Cane Hill. His second wife, whom he married in 1842, was a daughter of Baptist missionary Evan Jones. Pierson died in 1893.

2. On October 6, 1846, Washington Presbytery passed a resolution to charge Larremore, and directed him to appear November 12, 1846. He did not attend this meeting, and another Citation was issued for his appearance December 10, 1846. At that meeting, he was again absent; and a quorum was not present until the third day, when the trial was reset for Tuesday, April 6, 1847.

3. In 1824, Larremore was received as a candidate for the ministry. At that time, "his call and motives to the ministry...were satisfactory, his moral character and standing FAIR" (emphasis added). (Minutes of Arkansas Presbytery, p. 3) On October 30, 1830, the ARKANSAS GAZETTE ran a story at Larremore's request: "Presbytery Checks Rumors on Moral Character of Rev. Larremore, Finds Them Baseless." In October 1842, Washington Presbytery voted down a resolution proposed by Fayetteville Congregation to investigate "defamatory reports" against Larremore. (Minutes of Washington Presbytery, p. 74)

4. The surname Larremore is spelled variously Laramore, Laremore, Larimore, Larramore, Larrimore, Learamore, and Larrymore. The spelling used is as he signed his name on land patents issued in Washington County during the 1830s.

5. Evidently, there were eight fully ordained ministers in Washington Presbytery, as only one absence was noted.

6. A prospective Cumberland Presbyterian minister, after meeting certain basic requirements, became a candidate. After a period of study and delivering a trial sermon ("discourse" at Presbytery, a candidate could become a licentiate (also called probationer), who could perform most or all ministerial functions. After some experience, and an additional trial sermon(s), a licentiate could become ordained. Only ordained ministers and elders commissioned by their churches could vote at Presbytery meetings.

7. By inference, from census reports, Larremore was born between 1790 and 1795, undoubtedly closer to the former date, as his first daughter was born in 1808.

8. John Carnahan, William Stevenson, and Frank Braly.

9. Those ordained were Larremore, Jessee Blair, and James Black.

10. Ann Grieg Johnson, "Andrew A. Morton at Natural Dam", unpublished manuscript at Van Buren Branch, Ozarks Regional Library.

11. On the first tax list of Crawford County (1821), Larremore listed two horses and twelve neat cattle (oxen). In 1830, he assessed a dwelling at \$50, four slaves, four horses and jacks, and sixteen neat cattle. After moving to Fayetteville, he was an active speculator in real estate, always paying cash as far as can be determined. He evidently ran a store on the Fayetteville square, facing East Street (Block 28, Lot 10).

12. Minutes of Washington Presbytery, p. 165.

13. Austin L. Venable, editor "Constitution and Proceedings of the Fayetteville Temperance Society 1841-1844, ARKANSAS HISTORICAL QUARTERLY, Summer 1944 (III, 2), p. 172.

14. Ibid. Arrington, who was later known to be a heavy imbibor, appeared at the next meeting, and "delivered one of the most eloquent and instructive lectures on the subject of temperance ever delivered in the far west." Ibid, p. 173.

15. Ibid, p. 178.

16. Ibid, p. 179.

17. Excerpts from Pierson's memoirs were published in FLASHBACK February 1967. "It is true, as I believe, that my labors would have been more abundantly blessed, had it not been for a fault of my own, which I have often mourned. I allude to a cold heart. If I had invariably entered and occupied the pulpit with a heart warmed by the presence and smiles of a crucified Savior, I am sure that my efforts would have accomplished much more good than they have." (P. 14)

18. Minutes of Washington Presbytery, p. 172-3.

19. Ibid., p. 168.

20. Ibid., p. 175.

21. Ibid.

22. Ibid, p. 193.

23. Ibid, p. 202.

24. FLASHBACK, January 1954, p. 9.

25. Book F, p. 537, November 23, 1850 (recorded January 23, 1852)

26. Johnson, op. cit., p. 14.

David Ellis is a resident of the Cane Hill area and contributes his weekly column on Cane Hill events and history, Cane Hill Chronicles, to the Lincoln Leader and Prairie Grove Enterprise newspapers.

† † † † †

1861-1931 Price Comparisons

Item	1861 Price	1931 Price
Wheat	\$1.50 bu.	40¢ bu.
Flour	\$4.50 sack	\$1.60 sack
Pork	5-6¢ lb.	4¢ lb.
Corn	75¢ bushel	80¢ bushel
Brown Sugar	14¢ lb.	8¢ lb.
Loaf Bread	20¢ lb.	10¢ lb.
Coffee	25¢ lb.	15-45¢ lb.
Butter	20-25¢ lb.	25-30¢ lb.
Eggs	10¢ doz.	12-18¢ doz.
Chickens	\$1.25 doz.	16¢ lb./40¢ for 2½ lb. fowl
Turkeys	50¢ ea.	\$3.50-\$5.00 ea.
Beef	45¢	12-15¢ (5-6¢ on hoof)
Whiskey	75¢-\$2.00 gal.	? (Prohibition)
Dry Hides	10¢ lb.	3¢ lb.
Bacon	15¢ lb.	25-40¢ lb.
Lard	15¢ lb.	Same
Hay	60-75¢ 100 lbs.	Same
Fodder	\$1.50 100 binds	Same
Oats	\$1.50 100 binds	Same

Source: Fayetteville Democrat, August 14, 1931

What is a Questorian?

Forty-two people came to a meeting in January, 1993 to establish a family history discussion group, sponsored by the Washington County Historical Society.

"Washington County Historical Society Family History Discussion Group" proved to be an unwieldy name, so Barbara Hale, genealogical specialist at the Fayetteville Public Library, coined the word, "Questorians." It refers to people who are questing through history to develop their genealogies. It's a good word because that's what genealogy is; a never-ending quest through history for information about ancestors.

During the past year the organization has evolved from a simple get together to more structured meetings, but with an informal atmosphere, featuring knowledgeable speakers, followed by spirited question and answer sessions.

The following subjects were featured in 1993:

January: Organizational meeting. Everyone had a chance to say what his special interests were and what he hoped the organization could accomplish.

February: There were four discussion groups: Lois Miller led the Arkansas Group, Barbara Hale the Beginners' group, Vicki Rounsavall the Civil War Group, and Mary Jo Godfrey led the Migration Group.

March: Bo Roop led the American Indian group, Barbara Hale and Dorothea Coleman the Beginners' group, Claudia Wagoner the Tennessee group and Mary Jo Godfrey the Migration group.

April: James Johnson talked about Surnames.

May: Mary Parsons talked about preserving old photographs. She and Mary Ellen Johnson copied old photos that people brought to the meeting for the Shiloh Museum archives.

June: Dennis Boyer discussed and demonstrated computer-aided genealogy.

July: A video, "Prepare to Publish," from Gateway Press was shown. Barbara Meeker of Arc Publishing in Cane Hill talked about publishing.

August: Vicki Rounsavall talked about the use of courthouse records. Barbara Hale spoke about using census records.

September: Herbert Holcomb lectured on the use of land records to solve research problems.

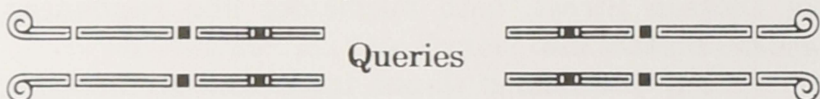
October: Andrea Cantrell, head of Research Services, Special Collections, Mullens Library, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, spoke on "how to research manuscript collections."

November: Don Montgomery, Historian, Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park, spoke on, "Searching for Civil War Ancestors."

December: No meeting held.

The first meeting of the Questorians was held at the SWEPCO Hospitality Room and the November meeting was held in the Latta Barn at Prairie Grove State Park. All other meetings have been held at Hillcrest Towers, 1 N. School street, Fayetteville.

All meetings are on the third Sunday afternoon of the month from 2:00 to 4:00 PM, usually at Hillcrest Towers. Everyone interested in family history is welcome to attend these meetings. For more information on upcoming meetings call the Fayetteville Public Library, Genealogy Department at (501) 442-2242.



I am researching my gr, grandmother, **Mary Ann (Bell) Harvill**, former resident of Mountain View, Missouri. Born 3-23-1838, died 4-16-1920, buried by her husband, **William Smith Harvill**, at Arroll, Missouri.

She was Indian (probably half). Her father was **Samson Bell** of Tennessee. No information on her mother. Descendants will be living in Missouri. I need the name of her Indian tribe and address of next of kin. Write Harvel, 1412 SW 54th St., Oklahoma City, Ok 73119.

I am seeking the death dates and burial places for **Calvin and Lidia Barker**, who were in Richland Township (Maguire's Store) according to the 1870 Washington County census. I am interested in finding descendants of these people. Contact Mark Barker, 1816 Oak Hill Dr., Kingston, Tn 37763.

This query is being made to the readers of this journal in the hopes I may obtain some assistance with my project to document the history of Fayetteville's Dickson Street. I have a fairly detailed inventory of residents and businesses of Dickson Street, from Olive Avenue to the east and Garland Avenue to the west, for the years 1868 to 1993. However, names and dates are boring unless accompanied by stories and pictures. At this point in my research I am trying to compile biographical sketches (1-2 paragraphs) of the businesses and residents of the street.

I have narrowed my selection to Dickson Street occupants who were on the street at least fifteen years. If anyone has any information on such businesses or residents, or if they would like to share pictures of Dickson Street, both businesses and residences, please contact me.

For businesses, I am interested in knowing when the business was established, when it moved to Dickson Street, how long it remained there and a little of its business activities.

For residents, I am interested in birth and

death dates, spouse information, length of time on Dickson Street, employment, social activities, and other interesting pieces of information relating to the history of the street or of Fayetteville.

I will be most grateful for any information I receive. Please contact Tony Wappel, 20 N. Duncan #4, Fayetteville, Ar 72701. (501) 444-8374.

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Letters

We received several letters after our November, 1993 issue. We want you to know that we appreciate each and every one not just for the complementary things you often, but for the information you add to our articles.

Helen Barron Shupik of Bridgeport, Connecticut, had this to say after reading Charles Wantuck's article on Fayetteville businesses:

The "Walters Cleaning" mentioned in Wantuck's article was our family business. My grandmother, Mrs. Rozella Bond (Walters) Nitong, started the business as "Walters Tailoring " with her first husband, Julius Walters. Their sons, Clyde and Jesse, carried on the business after his death. Clyde Walters was the father of Col. W.E. Walters (ret.). My grandmother remarried to Rush P. Nitong and the business was run by Clyde Walters as "Walters Cleaning." My mother, Helen Nitong Barron, is the daughter of Rush P. Nitong and Rozetta Bond (Walters) Nitong.

Ms. Mamie E. Cox-Parker of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, wrote of our August World's Fair article:

Was delighted to read the article and match it to a book which I inherited from my grandfather, George Franklin Cox, formerly of Reiff Chapel, Washington County.

The 5x7x1-inch picture book (no cover and some missing pages) was obviously bought at the St. Louis fair by a Cox relative. It was moved to Oklahoma in 1919 in a covered wagon by my father, Alvis Earl Cox. When he deceased in 1956, I inherited this book and all of his Arkansas grade school books from the early 1900s. I have "flipped thru" this picture book numerous times and wondered if I would ever know why and where these magnificent buildings were constructed. Details of the ferris wheel matched a picture near the back of the book.

Our May, 1993 issue caught the eye of John D. Nettleship of San Luis Obispo, California:

Another Fayetteville native, Kosea Lafayette "Dick" Williams, is now a resident of Santa Barbara....Dick said his family was from Maguire's Store near Fayetteville and I told him we were probably related since my mother's birthplace is Maguire's Store. She was the daughter of Jesse Christopher Williams and Louella Josephine Williams Williams and was named Ione Lake Williams. Louella's parents were Benjamin Franklin Williams and Mehetabel Bunger.-...My mother's father, Jesse Christopher Williams was a pharmacist and ran the pharmacy on the NE corner of West and Dickson Street in Fayetteville. She married E. L. "Lape" Nettleship, son of Isaac Wesley Nettleship and Frances Jane Statler Nettleship, who came to Fayetteville from Ohio. My dad was a merchandize broker who had an office in the Simpson Minton building on the SE corner of Dickson and West Street. He served as secretary of the Washington County Fair for many years and has a street named for him there. Our home was at 312 St. Charles Street and was replaced by the current post office's parking lot.

Laws of Genealogy

The more vital the document containing evidence of the missing link in your research the greater the chance the it was lost in the last courthouse fire.

Your Great, Great Grandfather's obituary states he died, leaving no issue of record.

The town clerk you wrote to in desperation, and finally convinced to give you the information you need, can't write legibly and doesn't have a copying machine.

The will you need is safe on board the "Titanic."

The faded photograph of four relatives, one of whom is your progenitor, will never have the name you need, or the complete names of the others.

Old newspapers will always have holes occurring only over the last names you are searching for.

No one in your family tree ever did anything noteworthy; always missed the census takers, only rented property, and was never sued or named in wills.

You learned that Great Aunt Matilda's executor just sold her trunk of family genealogical materials to a flea market dealer somewhere back East.

Yours is the only last name not among the three billion in the Mormon Archives in Salt Lake City.

Ink fades and paper deteriorates at a rate inversely proportional to the value of the data recorded.

Announcements

In August, 1993, the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, announced the awarding of 17 Historic Preservation Grants for projects across the state. Among those receiving awards were Vicki Rounsavall and James Kettermen who received \$2,490 to research and prepare a history of the Fayetteville National Cemetery. The cemetery, which dates from shortly after the Civil War, is one of only three National Cemeteries in Arkansas, contains the remains of many Civil War dead. A final result of this research, along with a publication of the research, is a planned National Register of Historic Places nomination for the site.

In November, 1993, the Arkansas Historic Preservation Project announced their list 1993 National Register of Historic Places nominations. Four sites in Arkansas were on that list.

- Old Bank of Fayetteville Building at 100 W. Center Street in Fayetteville built in 1899.

- Cane Hill Battlefield at and near Cane Hill, scene of a November 28, 1862, action in which a smaller Confederate force under General John S. Marmaduke fought a stubborn retreat against major elements of Union General James G. Blunt's division.

- Twin Bridges on Washington County Road 11 near Morrow, a pair of 1922 single-arch, reinforced-concrete bridges.

- Bean cemetery off Highway 62 near Lincoln, containing at least 251 burials linked to the post-Civil War African-American settlements at Lincoln, Summers and Cane Hill.

Recent Donations

Recently the Washington County Historical Society has been the recipient of several fine donations. While we would like to list all of the articles donated, space does not permit, so we will simply mention some of the more prominent items that have been donated to our Society.

Mary Sue Reagan, Rogers, Arkansas

Letter opener from the T.C. Skaggs Drug Store
in Fayetteville

Pocket watch and box from the J.L. Duke
Jewelry Co. in Fayetteville

Badge from the 1931 District Postmasters'
Convention held at Fayetteville

George Holcomb, Bella Vista, Arkansas

(In memory of wife, Mary Ripley Holcomb)

Two eighteen-inch tall hurricane lamp globes

Mr. and Mrs. James Droke, Arlington, Texas

Civil War sword carried by Col. Pettigrew in the
Civil War Battle of Camden

Dresden China pitcher

Pale pink vase

G.W. Droke Family Bible

Mrs. Lawrence Browne, Fayetteville, Arkansas

April 15, 1933, Fayetteville Photographs

Washington County map, 1978

City of Fayetteville map, 1920s (est.)

Ridge House blueprints

Chart of Evergreen Cemetery

Where Did Grandfather Hosey Live?

by Juell Benbrook Hamblen Giles

Where did Grandfather Hosey live when he mortgaged their farm to get the money to buy one thousand head of shoats to fatten and resell from the stockyards in St. Louis?

Grandma objected, saying it was foolish to mortgage their home. When Grandma told me about it, I said: "Why did you sign the mortgage?" She replied, "I held out as long as I could." He would have always held it against her, blaming her for keeping him from getting ahead financially. Finally, he refused to talk to her, went to bed and pouted for days, so she gave in.

He bought the 1,000 head of shoats, but a deadly new contagious disease had developed from the contaminated stock pens in St. Louis--Cholera--and the shoats caught the disease. My father said, "We got them home and in a few days one of the shoats sickened and died, followed by another and another until they were all dead." They built a sled to haul the dead pigs to a big bonfire pit every morning.

Grandad and Grandma never owned another home that I know of. They lived in some places in and around Elkins, but I don't know if that was before or after the catastrophe with the pigs. Three houses that they lived in are still standing; the big house in Maguire Town, the green Maguire house which they rented after they left the big house, and a house in Elkins (which they may have owned) that is still standing with only one little change, a partition taken out between the dining room and living room.

Some researchers say the Fishers, who Grandad sold the big house farm to, lived in the house when I

was born there in 1899 because some old newspapers were found with their name (Fisher) on them. That wouldn't mean they lived there. I give my papers to a friend and she gives me her papers and magazines. The Fishers could have stayed in their own home and rented the big house to Grandad, or Grandad could have had it in the contract that he was continue living there for a certain amount of time. One thing is sure, Grandad lived there when Mother and Dad married in 1897 and Dad got a cousin, Bert Benbrook to board there and tend to the stock for Grandad.

Mother and Dad moved to the Robbins place in Elkins when they married (Keith Robbins of Fayetteville is a descendant). Then Bert left and Mother and Dad moved back to the big house before I was born. When I was a year old we moved to Montana for five years before moving to Maguire Town.

Grandad had left the big house farm and was living across the road in a green house (I think). We lived with them for awhile until my brother was born (Major Clyde R. Benbrook, killed in France in World War Two, July 4, 1944). I had a little girl chum at this time who lived in the big house named Callie Smith. So I don't know if the Fishers, who had a hack service in Fayetteville, ever did live there.

Can anyone shed any light on Grandfather's life at the time mentioned?

Juel's Jewels

by a Country Bumpkin
from the
Ozark Hills of
Arkansas

Juel Benbrook Hamblen Giles
Walnut Grove - Farmington, Arkansas

Juel Benbrook Hamblen Giles, is a resident of Walnut Grove, Arkansas, and the author of Juel's Jewels, a book of poetry and family history. For information on how to obtain her book, write:

*12052 N. Ark. Hwy. 170
Farmington, Ar. 72730*

The Keen Family of Washington County Arkansas

by Robert L. Keen

The Keen family came from Ireland, but they were of English, Scottish and Irish origin. The original name was O Keene. Joshua Keen dropped the "O" and the last "e" upon his arrival in the United States. Joshua Keen was fifteen years old when he arrived by boat in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1817. He moved to Indiana, where he worked as a teacher and a farmer. There he met and married Nancy Britton, who had migrated from Ireland five years before him.

They had several children the names of which are not known, but a son, Mitchell Abner Keen, was born November 3, 1828, in Indiana. At the age of five, while his father was building a brick fireplace, a brick fell hitting Mitchell in the head above his left eye, resulting in a silver plate being placed in his skull.

The family moved on to Illinois where Mitchell Abner married Nancy Travis of Decatur, Illinois, in 1850. Joshua Keen and family moved to Iowa, where Nancy Britton Keen died in 1896. It is unknown where Joshua and their other children completed their lives.

Mitchell Abner and Nancy Travis decided to move to California, in route their plans were changed because the Civil War started. Mitchell Abner was a Union sympathizer and a skilled blacksmith, but he was caught in Texas and forced into the Confederate army against his will. The family settled on the Trinity River close to what is now known as Dallas, Texas.

After the war, Mitchell Abner moved his family to Waldron, Arkansas, arriving Christmas Day, 1865. There they lived for five years until Nancy died in 1870. Following Nancy's death they moved to Cove Creek in Washington County, Arkansas, where Mitchell

Abner bought forty acres.

To the union of Mitchell Abner and Nancy Travis were born: Charlie; John Britton, 1859; Sidney Travis, 1861; one son stillborn; Anne; Martha; Dora; and Jane.

In 1872 Mitchell Abner married the widow Dyris, who already had four children: Bruce, Colvert, Henry and one girl name unknown.

Mitchell Abner and family moved to Skylight Mountain, Washington County, where he farmed and built a school. Mitchell Abner and the widow Dyris traded their farm on Skylight Mountain for a farm in Southwest Kansas. After living there for a short period of time, they sold the farm and moved back to Arkansas and leased a farm on Skylight. There the widow Dyris died. She was buried in Canehill Cemetery, Canehill, Arkansas. Mitchell Abner returned to Texas, where he died in Dallas in 1898.

To the union of Mitchell Abner and the widow Dyris was born: Abner Hogan, 1873; and Albert, 1874.

Albert worked for the railroad in Oklahoma. That is all that is know about him. Abner Hogan Keen left and traveled with a circus. He returned home only once to find his mother had died ten years before. In later life he lived in Morris, Oklahoma, and was buried in a paupers cemetery in Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

One girl, name unknown, married Cal Gould. Anne married Hiram Beam. One girl, name unknown, married John Aceres, being blessed with two children--Abner and Albert.

Charlie Keen settled east of Fayetteville, Arkansas. John Britton Keen married Martha Elizabeth (Mattie) Cox, in 1881, she was the daughter of John and Jane Witherspoon Cox.

John Britton and Mattie lived on the south side of Antioch Mountain near the town of Odell. Mattie was known for her love of singing. She knew so many

songs that she could sing all night and never sing the same song twice.

John Britton died August 31, 1933, and is buried in Oilton, Oklahoma. Mattie was born in New Town (Clyde), Arkansas, February 27, 1861. She died May 5, 1926, and is buried at Oilton.

John Britton and Mattie Cox Keen had children named John, Ed, Joe, Charlie, Tom, Frank, Bill, James Britton, Dosha, Cora, Dora, Mary and Pearl.

Tom went to Morrow then Dutch Mills, Arkansas before settling in Stilwell, Oklahoma. Tom married Lomis Cone, they had Tom, Verl, Roy, Joy and Alfie.

Tom lived at Stilwell and is buried there. John lived in Grand Prairie, Texas. Charlie lived in Seagraves, Texas. Frank lived in Rule, Texas. Bill lived in Morris, Oklahoma. Dora lived in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Mary lived in Stilwell. Pearl lived in Tonkawa, Oklahoma.

James Britton Keen married Evelyn Baugh, they had children named Guy, 1909 (Morrow); Morine, 1912 (Morrow); Carl, 1915 (Morrow); Hubert, 1922 (Okmulgee, Oklahoma); Juanita, 1924 (Okmulgee); and Betty, 1927 (Morris, Oklahoma).

James Britton Keen was on the police force in Stilwell in the 1930s. He then worked in the oil fields and later with the Prairie Grove police force in the 1940s. He retired from Prairie Grove Public Schools as a custodian. James Britton was born 1883, died in 1961 and is buried in Bethesda Cemetery, Morrow. Eva Selina Baugh Keen was born 1889 and died in 1983 and is buried in Bethesda Cemetery as well.

Guy Robert Keen was born in Morrow in 1909. He married Velma Rader. They had three children--Jack, Genell and Robbie. He was on the Prairie Grove police force in the 1970s. He died in 1989 and is buried at Prairie Grove.

Morine Keene Cone was born in 1912 at Morrow. She married Barry Cone at Stilwell; they had one son, Jerry. Morine died June 19, 1964 and was buried at Bethesda Cemetery.

Carl Keene was born July 7, 1915 in Morrow. His wife was Catherine; their children's names are Glenda, J. C., Danny and Sandy (twins), and Christine. Carl died June 21, 1981 in Kansas. He, too, is buried at Bethesda Cemetery.

Hubert Taylor Keene was born February 20, 1922 in Okmulgee. He married Geneva Childers and they had two children Gregg Britton (Skip), and Diane. Hubert was a business man in Prairie Grove. He died December 3, 1981, and is buried in Bethesda Cemetery.

Juanita Keene Spencer was born in 1924 at Okmulgee. She married Harold Spencer and they had three children: Jim, Susan, Sheri.

Betty Keene Sparks was born October 5, 1927 at Morris. She married Guy Sparks of Prairie Grove and they have two daughters, Gyla and Melissa. Guy is retired from the Farmers & Merchants Bank in Prairie Grove. Betty is retired from Prairie Grove schools. They still live in Prairie Grove.

The forty acres that Mitchell Abner bought in the 1870s on Cove Creek, were given to his son Sidney Travis Keen. Sidney had been born blind due to his mother, Nancy Travis, having been afflicted with the measles during her pregnancy. Sidney Travis lived for several years on Cove Creek, then sold his farm and homesteaded 160 acres, three miles south of Morrow one-half mile from the town of Padora in what became known as Sid Keen Hollow (Sycamore) in 1883. Sidney Travis, although blind, built a home and cleared and farmed his homestead. In 1903 he met and married the widow, Louisa Alzana Elizabeth Jane Rambo Henry.

Sidney Travis and Sam Clay went to Fayetteville

to obtain a marriage license. Sam was Louisa's witness as in those days a woman was required to have a man to swear to the fact that she was eligible for marriage. Louisa was born February 4, 1881 in Searcy, Arkansas. Louisa had been married to Marion Henry, a half-brother to Marshall McCratic. He had homesteaded on the west side of Hale Mountain, south of Morrow. Louisa and Marion Henry had three children: Georgia Rosetta, Maudie Melbernia Sarah Catherine, Marshall Alexander Columbus Henry.

The Henrys moved from Hale Mountain to Indian Territory to be close to her family. Her father was George Washington Rambo, and her mother was Nancy Roberts Rambo, the daughter of Wesley and Sarah Roberts of Polk County, Arkansas. Louisa had two brothers, Garfield and William Rambo. Her family lived near Stark, Oklahoma and her brothers never married. Marion Henry was injured in a wagon accident on the trip to Oklahoma and lived for three more months before dying from complications due to his injuries. Maudie Henry caught a fever and died. She was buried next to her father, Marion Henry, in Star Cherokee Indian Cemetery, the location of which is now under Lake Eufaula, in Oklahoma.

Louisa remembers as a girl several families traveling by wagon to Fort Smith for Indian rations. Louisa and her two re-



*Louisa Alzana Elizabeth
Jane Rambo Henry Keen*



Sidney Travis Keen

maining children returned to the homestead on Hale Mountain, where she met and married Sidney Travis in 1903. Georgia Henry got too close to the fireplace, catching her clothing on fire. She died of her injuries and was buried at Antioch cemetery in 1905. Sidney Travis Keen did not like the name of his stepson, Marshall Alexander Columbus

Henry, so he changed his name to Richard Alexander Henry, born October 14, 1902 in Oklahoma Territory.

Although blind, Sidney Keen was known for his keen senses. A former neighbor, the late Leland Holcroft, told that Sidney could tell by the sound of a horse on the road to whom that horse belonged, and if the owner or someone else was riding it. He used his hands to measure where to begin plowing a furrow, and was known to have the neatest and straightest fields in the area. He also did his entire weeding by feel.

Another story told by Deke Dobbs was that Sid and his son, Arb, were cutting and hauling logs into Prairie Grove and Deke and his uncle were also hauling logs into Prairie Grove. Having arrived in town too late in the evening to return home, they had to spend the night in their wagons. The Keens were unprepared to spend the night having no blankets with them, so the Dobbs loaned them a quilt as the nights were quite cool. Arriving home the next day, the Keens discovered the borrowed quilt in the wagon. The mules were tired

and were turned out to pasture so Sid Keen walked the ten miles to Cove Creek to return the quilt. Deke says he has always remembered Sid's honesty.

Louisa Rambo Henry Keen was of Indian heritage, and known for her medicinal practices, and for being quiet on her feet. According to neighbor Graham Wright, she could be at your door and the dogs would never have heard her coming. She would not knock on the door, but would stand and wait until she was noticed and invited to come in. Graham Wright also tells of being frightened as a child when seeing her two brothers come for a visit dressed in traditional Cherokee garments.

The Keens grew almost everything they needed on the farm including cotton, tobacco, only bare necessities were bought from the sale of railroad ties, and stave bolts. Graham Wright says he remembers them butchering six or seven hogs at once as pork was their main meat source. They carried their corn and wheat to the mill in Cane Hill to be ground into flour and corn meal. Sid and Louisa lived in Padora. Walter (Shorty) McShaun ran the store and blacksmith shop and was postmaster of Padora. *[The Antioch community has also been called Pandora, or Padora, from time to time. As for Padora itself, it opened its first post office in 1892 under George T. Mayo, a local doctor. It closed the next year to be reopened in 1913 for another three years. Mr. Keen lists Walter McShaun as Pandora's postmaster, however Deane G. Carter, in Washington County Postmasters and Postoffices: 1829-1976 lists Pandora's postmasters as being: George T. Mayo, 1892; James T. Kidd, 1913; Ethel Mayo, 1914; George T. Mayo, 1915; Benj. W. Mershon, 1916. Perhaps Walter McShaun simply oversaw the local postoffice leading people Mr. Keen spoke with to believe he was the official postmaster.]-Editor]*

To the union of Sidney Travis and Louisa Rambo Henry Keen was born William Arbison, December 3, 1904; John Thomas, November 22, 1905; Charles

Franklin, February 22, 1909; Martha Jane, July 5, 1911; Roberts Wesley, November 10, 1913. They lived on the homestead until 1923. All the children attended school at the old Antioch school just north of the Wright farm.

The school was blown down by a tornado and the lumber was gathered together and the building was rebuilt at its present location across from the Antioch cemetery. In 1923 they moved to Lincoln, Arkansas and lived on Park Street. Roberts attended Lincoln school. From Lincoln they moved to Possum Hollow, southwest of Morrow, near Vineyard. Roberts and Martha attended school at Vineyard. They moved south of Farmington, Arkansas near Walnut Grove and from there to Blue Mountain. With only one son still at home, Roberts who worked at Devils Den in the CCCs, received pay of thirty dollars a month, five of which he kept, and twenty-five of which he gave to his parents. Times were lean. They had laying hens from which they sold eggs at Prairie Grove. Louisa became sickly in later years and went to live with her son, Richard Henry, at Morrow. She died in Little Rock in 1951.

Sid Keen, having no sons in the area at the time, lived with Leland and Maxine Holcroft on the old Herring place south of the original homestead at Sid Keen Hollow. In final years he went to live with his daughter, Martha, who lived on Blue Mountain with her husband Henry Edwards.

Sid fell after walking a grandchild to Fly Creek to catch the school bus. He got wet and caught a chill by the time he was found he was already well on his way to pneumonia. He died several weeks later in 1940. Richard Henry married Ora Ellen Kidd, they had one son Robert Henry born November 5, 1928. Ora Ellen died in childbirth, or soon after, and is buried in Bethesda cemetery.

Richard Henry married again to Icey Quinton,

the daughter of Henry Quinton. Icey was born in 1907 and died in 1960. He was buried in Antioch cemetery. To this union were born: J. D. Henry in 1931, he died in 1939; Eugene Henry, January 10, 1933, he died May 23, 1967; Willma Dean Henry, born November 10, 1943, she died May 20, 1961. All these children are buried at Antioch cemetery. Bob Henry married Betty Hamilton; they have two children, Billy and Bobby. Richard Henry was a farmer, carpenter and stonemason. Richard died March 6, 1980 at Siloam Springs, Arkansas, and was buried at Antioch cemetery, Morrow. He was a lifetime resident of Morrow.

William Arbison Keen was known as a skilled woodsman who could not be lost in the woods. He took after his mother, Louisa. He learned such skills as using moss on the trees and rocks, or the moon, sun or stars to find his way. He was known for his wry sense of humor and many stories have been repeated that were accredited to his telling. As a teenager his skills of cutting ties, staves, and shingles were unsurpassed in the area. While a young man, he went to Oklahoma where he worked for a time in a T.B. sanatorium as a gardener near Pauls Valley, Oklahoma. Later he joined the wheat harvest, where he met and married Juanita Ione Hamilton in 1944 in Guymon, Oklahoma.

She was born October 23, 1922, the daughter of Louis B. and Gladis Marie Hamilton. Juanita had two brothers, Gerald and Louis B. Hamilton, Jr. Arb and Juanita moved from Hooker, Oklahoma to the Morrow area in 1946 and lived there until 1959 when they moved near Lincoln. Juanita was known for her love of God, her kindness and generosity to others. William Arbison Keen died April 7, 1977 and is buried at Antioch cemetery. Juanita died November 24, 1987 and is buried at Antioch cemetery.

To this union was born William Arbison Keen,

1945, he died in 1945 and is buried in Evergreen cemetery, Guymon; William (Bill) Leon Keen, May 27, 1946; Robert (Bob) Louis Keen, November 23, 1947; Donald (Don) Ray Keen, December 12, 1949; Sidney Thomas (Tommy) Keen, October 13, 1956.

William (Bill) Keen married Carolyn Choate, the daughter of Woodrow and Ida Mae Choate on September 18, 1964. They have two daughters, Angela Sue Keen Smith, August 4, 1969, she is married to Delbert Smith; and Laura Marie Keen, born October 23, 1975. William (Bill) Keen is the water superintendent at Lincoln; they also own a farm at Dutch Mills.

Robert Louis (Bob) Keen married Paula Jean Niman of Fayetteville, November 10, 1965. She is the daughter of Lester Eugene Niman and Myrtle Irene Oxford. Bob moved to Houston, Texas in 1968 and worked in sales. He moved back to the Lincoln area in 1979 after becoming disabled. Bob and Paula have three children: Robert Louis Keen Jr., December 26, 1966; Leslie Lugina, September 9, 1968; and Kristopher Barret Keen, November 25, 1972.

Donald (Don) Ray Keen married Francis and had one son, Donald Ray Keen Jr., August 21, 1969. He now lives in Kilgore, Texas. Donald was a lifelong resident of Lincoln and licensed in water and sewer treatment. He worked in later years as a gardener. Don died November 21, 1990 and is buried in Antioch cemetery.

Sidney Thomas (Tommy) Keen was a longtime resident of Lincoln. He now lives in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

John Thomas Keen married Viola Grant, the daughter of Walter Grant of Greasy Valley, Washington County in 1928. They had one daughter, Francis, in 1931. Viola died in childbirth and is buried in Lincoln cemetery under the name of Viola Keev. Francis was raised by her grandparents, the Grants. She went to

school at Cane Hill. Francis married Clarence Risely and moved to Coos Bay, Oregon, where Clarence drowned. Francis remarried and still lives in Oregon.

John Thomas Keen died September 5, 1961 in Springfield, Colorado. He was a disabled veteran of World War II.

Charles Franklin Keen married Beulah Green. They had one daughter, Betty Keen Winter. Betty had two children, Craig and Carla Winter. Beulah was born in Lincoln and died at Modesto, California. Charlie died in Fresno, California in 1975. Martha Jane Keen Edwards married Henry Edwards of Dutch Mills. They had five children: Claude Edwards, who died in 1991. Audie Edwards, now deceased and buried in the Fayetteville National Cemetery; John Edwards, who lives in the Fayetteville area; Alma Edwards, who lives in the Decatur area; Maudie Joan Edwards, who was adopted by another family now lives in the Springdale area and is a nurse. Henry Edwards died and is buried in Garrett cemetery, on Cove Creek. Martha died in 1971 and is buried at Antioch cemetery.

Roberts Wesley Keen married Evelyn Hodgson of Colfax, Iowa, November 10, 1946. They had three children: Randolph Travis Keen, December 9, 1947; twins Robert Daniell and Evelyn Annsalee, January 31, 1949. Roberts Wesley is the only surviving son of Sidney and Louisa Keen. He was in the CCCs at Devil's Den from June 6, 1935 to April 4, 1937. He went to California and joined the Army. He served in World War II from March 7, 1941 to October 29, 1945, obtaining the rank of sergeant of field artillery and was the recipient of various medals and decorations. Upon discharge from the Army he went to work for the Stevenson Corp. until 1980. He is now retired and lives in Delhi, California.

Randolph Travis Keen lives in Stockton, Califor-

nia and is employed by the Lawrence Livermore Nuclear Research Center. Robert Daniell Keen lives in Modesto, California and is a postoffice employee. Annsalee is living with her parents in Delhi, is employed by Jack-in-the-Box Corp. and active in the mission field for her church.

This concludes the information we were able to find about the Keens at this time. You will notice that from time to time the Keens have added the last "e" onto their name. This is not a misprint. Anyone who reads this will notice that the Keens often had very large families so there were a lot of names and dates we couldn't locate. Most of the information was gathered from the few remaining family members in this area, but, also, from friends and former neighbors who still remembered the Keens. A lot of information was provided by Roberts Keen of Delhi who several years ago had done some early research and had a super memory for someone eighty years young.

Our thanks go out to all of those people who spent lots of their time giving us information over the phone. We couldn't have done it without all of you. A special thanks to Uncle Rob Keen, Betty Sparks, Graham Wright, Dera Keen, Mrs. Loftin, Velma Keen. We hope that most of what is written is accurate. If anyone can add to or correct anything about the Keens, please contact Robert Louis Keen, Sr., 13643 Lincoln-Canehill Road, Lincoln, Ar 72744.

Robert L. Keen is a resident of western Washington County.



Book Review

Civil War in the Ozarks

by Phillip W. Steele and Steve Cottrell

Civil War in the Ozarks is the latest book from the pen of Springdale's Phillip W. Steele. Written in cooperation with Steve Cottrell of Missouri the book looks at the war as it raged across the entire Ozark region of Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma.

The book is well-written and includes historic photographs from regional archives (including the Historical Society's collection) and recent reenactments. Organized mainly as a year-by-year account of the hostilities it includes a good deal of outlaw and lost treasure lore. Those familiar with Phillip Steele and his work know it would be virtually impossible for him to write on any subject and not touch on these topics.

Persons interested in the Civil War in Washington County must remember that this book is an overview of the entire region and not just one county. To that end half of the book is on the Civil War in Missouri leaving the other half for Arkansas, Oklahoma and Kansas. The 1863 Battle of Fayetteville is not mentioned. The 1864 Battle of Fayetteville has a few lines with Price's Raid into Missouri. On the other hand, the Battle of Prairie Grove is given as much attention as the other major battles in the region. There are several brief mentions of minor events in the county.

All in all *Civil War in the Ozarks* is a very readable, enjoyable short history. It is an excellent book for persons who might know little or nothing about the war in the Ozarks and for younger readers looking for something interesting to read about this region.

The 136-page book, with index, is available for \$8.95 by writing: Phillip Steele, P. O. Box 191, Springdale, Ar 72765.

Thomas E. Jordon

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